RAWHIDE KID
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MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
57 APR
HOLD YOUR BREATH, RANNY... 'CAUSE THERE'S TWO-FISTED, SIX-SHOOTIN' EXCITEMENT AHEAD, AS THE KID MEETS THE MOST DANGEROUS OWLHOOT OF HIS GUN-SLAMMIN' CAREER..
"WHEN THE SCORPION STRIKES!"

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RAW-HIDE KID

"WHEN THE SCORPION STRIKES"

YOU ASKED FOR A MENACING NEW VILLAIN, AND HERE HE IS! A RUTHLESS DENIZEN OF THE UNTAMED WEST! A VARMINT WHOSE STING IS WORSE THAN HIS BARK! MEET--THE SCORPION!

I'VE LOOSENED THE BOULDER--AND NOT A SECOND TOO SOON! HERE COMES THE STAGE!

STAN LEE, EDITOR

LARRY LIEBER, SCRIPT AND ART

J. TARTAGLIONE, INKING

ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERING

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THAT BOULDER--IT'S FALLING RIGHT IN OUR PATH! REIN UP! QUICK!!
WHOA, HAWALL!
THE BLAMED ROCK IS BLOCKIN' OUR WAY, AND THERE AINT ROOM TO DRIVE AROUND IT! WHUT'LL WE DO?
I DUNNO--BUT I'LL BET MUH BOOTS THIS WAS NO ACCIDENT! KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED, AND YOUR GUN READY!
SMART THINKING, HOMBRE--BUT YOU'RE TOO LATE! I'VE ALREADY GOT THE DROP ON YOU!
THE SCORPION!!
HE'S AFTER THE PAYROLL! I AINT GONNA LET 'IM--
FRANK, DON'T! WE AINT GOT A CHANCE AGAINST THE SCORPION!
YOUR FRIEND'S RIGHT, SHOTGUN! YOU SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO HIM!
KRAK!

BUT, THE SCORPION'S SHOT IS HEARD BY A LONE FIGURE, SOME DISTANCE AWAY!
SOUNDS LIKE TROUBLE! AND JUST WHEN I WORKED UP A GOOD LATHER!
BUT, I RECKON SHAVIN' CAN WAIT...
...WHEREAS A FRACAS CAN'T! C'MON, NIGHT WIND--LET'S GO SEE WHAT'S UP!
AND, AS THE RAWHIDE KID HEADS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE GUNSHOT...
H-HE'S FROZEN STIFF! BUT, HOW COULD JUST A PLAIN BULLET--
THAT WAS NO ORDINARY BULLET! BUT DON'T WORRY! THE SCORPION'S STING IS NOT PERMANENT! IT WILL WEAR OFF SOON AFTER I'VE DEPARTED WITH THE PAYROLL!
WHA--AN INTRUDER! WHOEVER YOU ARE, CLEAR OUT! I SAID TAKE OFF! I WON'T WARN YOU AGAIN!
THAT'S JUST FINE--'CAUSE I DON'T TAKE WARNINGS FROM HOLD-UP MEN...
...EVEN WHEN THEY'RE DRESSED AS PURTY AS YOU!
STOP! LOOK OUT, YOU FOOL!
3

WRONG AGAIN! THE HOMBRE WHO ENDS UP ON TOP IS NEVER A FOOL!
YOU WON'T BE UP THERE FOR LONG, FRIEND! I PROMISE YOU!

AND, AS THE FALLEN ANTAGONISTS SPRING TO THEIR FEET...
I WEAR THIS CLOAK FOR MORE THAN SHOW! IT'S A MIGHTY USEFUL WEAPON IN HAND-TO-HAND BATTLE!
I-I'M ALL TANGLED UP IN THE BLASTED THING!
THAT'S THE IDEA-- TO RENDER YOU HELPLESS, AND SET YOU UP...

...FOR A FAST AND DECISIVE DEFEAT!
POW!

BUT, THE SCORPION RECKONS WITHOUT THE COURAGE AND STAMINA OF HIS YOUNG, BATTLE-HARDENED FOE...
HE'S NOT OUT! HE'S GETTING TO HIS FEET!
BUT, TOUGH AS HE IS, MY GUN WILL STOP HIM FOR SURE!
MUST GET UP... CAN'T LET HIM ESCAPE...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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TWENTY MINUTES LATER, TWO PARALYZED FIGURES REGAIN THEIR MOTOR FACULTIES!
DON'T FEEL TOO BAD, SON! THE SCORPION'S BEEN RAIDIN' THIS TERRITORY FOR MONTHS, AND SO FAR, NO ONE'S EVEN LEARNED HIS IDENTITY, LET ALONE CAPTURED HIM!
I'M NOT SURPRISED! HE'S A CRAFTY CRITTER!

BUT SLICK AS HE IS, MAYBE THERE'S A WAY TO OUTFOX HIM! DUSTVILLE IS THE NEAREST TOWN, ISN'T IT?
YEH, IT'S ABOUT TEN MILES EAST OF HERE!
I THINK I'LL RIDE ON OVER THERE!

BUT NOW, LET US GO BACK SEVERAL MONTHS, WHEN ANOTHER STRANGER ARRIVED AT DUSTVILLE...
THE WEST IS GROWING! MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DRUG ITEMS ARE SCARCE HERE!
I'LL EARN A GOOD LIVING IN THIS NECK OF THE WOODS!

AND, JIM EVANS, APOTHECARY, DID INDEED PROSPER IN DUSTVILLE!
THOSE PILLS HAVE DONE WONDERS FOR MY LUMBAGO!
GOOD! I'LL HAVE THE MEDICINE IN FOR BILLY'S ASTHMA NEXT WEEK!

THEN, AS IF TO COMPLETE JIM'S HAPPINESS, THE PRETTIEST GIRL IN TOWN TOOK A FANCY TO HIM.
I ENJOYED THE WALK, JIM!
ME, TOO! THERE'S A DANCE SATURDAY NIGHT! WILL YOU GO WITH ME?
YES, I'D BE DELIGHTED TO!

BUT, THE ROMANCE HAD HARDLY BEGUN WHEN...

JIM, THERE'S SOMETHING I MUST TELL YOU...

YOU SEEM TROUBLED, SARAH! WHAT'S WRONG? IS THERE SOMEONE ELSE?

YUH HIT IT RIGHT ON THE HEAD, FRIEND!

WHA--WHO ARE YOU?

MATT CODY'S THE HANDLE! AND THAT LITTLE LADY IS MUH GAL!

YES? AND JUST WHAT IS YOUR GAL SUPPOSED TO DO WHILE YOU GO GALLAVANTIN'...

I DO WHAT I WANT AND GO WHERE I PLEASE! WE AINT MARRIED YET!

AND, FROM HERE, IT LOOKS LIKE WE NEVER WILL BE!

WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT LATER! FOR NOW, I GOT BUSINESS WITH THIS DUDE!

YOU! NO ONE SWEET-TALKS MATT CODY'S GAL AND LIVES TO BRAG ABOUT IT! I'LL MEET YOU IN TOWN TOMORROW! BE SURE YOU'RE TOTIN' A GUN!

I--I'LL BE THERE!

BUT, THAT NIGHT... I COULDN'T BACK DOWN--NOT IN FRONT OF SARAH--I WAS TOO ASHAMED!

AND NOW, I'VE GOT TO GO THRU WITH IT, EVEN THO I'M MOST LIKELY NOT HALF AS GOOD WITH A GUN AS CODY!

AND THUS, THE FOLLOWING FATEFUL MORNING, TWO FOES FACED EACH OTHER FOR A GRIM RECKONING!

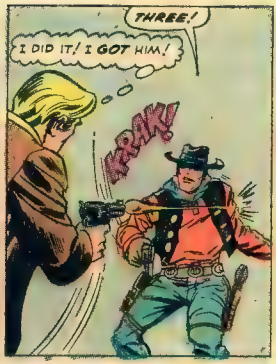
SINCE I'VE BEEN AT THIS GAME A MITE LONGER'N YOU, I'M GONNA GIVE YUH A BREAK! YUH CAN START WITH YOUR GUN IN YOUR HAND!

G'WAN, TAKE IT OUT! I DON'T WANT NO ONE TO SAY YUH DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE!

T-THANKS...

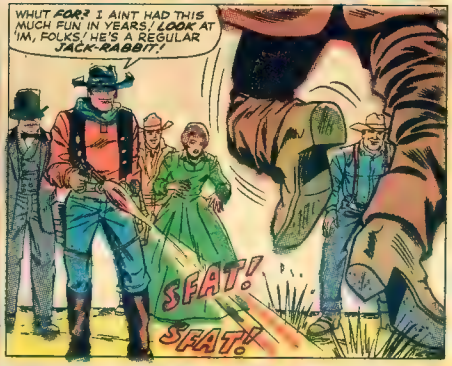
SAVE IT! I'M STILL GONNA WIN THIS SHOOT-OUT!

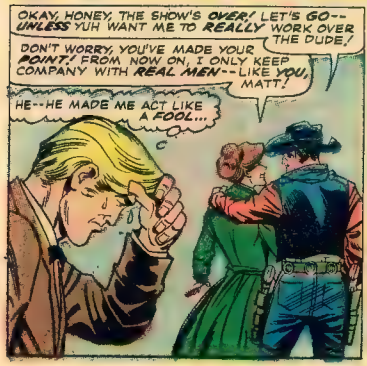
OKAY, DUDE, YOUR IRON IS FREE AND CLEAR NOW.
AT THE COUNT OF THREE, WE MAKE OUR PLAY.
ONE... TWO...


THREE!
I DID IT. I GOT HIM.
KRAK!

BUT, THE FIRST SHOT IS NOT ALWAYS THE DECISIVE ONE...
TOO BAD YUH JUST NICKED ME--'CAUSE NOW IT'S MY TURN, AND I DON'T MISS.
MY GUN--
KRAK!

I COULD DROP YUH EASY, BUT THAT MIGHT MAKE SARAH FEEL SORRY FOR YUH. SO, INSTEAD, I'LL MAKE YUH DANCE IN FRONT OF THE WHOLE TOWN.
THAT'S IT--HOP HIGHER. HIGHER.
S-STOP--PLEASE.
KRAK!


WHUT FOR? I AINT HAD THIS MUCH FUN IN YEARS. LOOK AT 'IM, FOLKS. HE'S A REGULAR JACK-RABBIT.
SFAT!
SFAT!


OKAY, HONEY. THE SHOW'S OVER. LET'S GO--UNLESS YUH WANT ME TO REALLY WORK OVER THE DUDE.
DON'T WORRY, YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT. FROM NOW ON, I ONLY KEEP COMPANY WITH REAL MEN--LIKE YOU, MATT.
HE--HE MADE ME ACT LIKE A FOOL...

...AND ALL THE WHILE, THE TOWN JUST STOOD BY--NO ONE HELPING ME--SOME FOLKS EVEN LAUGHING. I'VE LOST THEIR RESPECT, MY GIRL, EVERYTHING.
BUT, I'LL GET EVEN. I'LL MAKE THEM ALL PAY FOR THIS HUMILIATION. I SWEAR IT.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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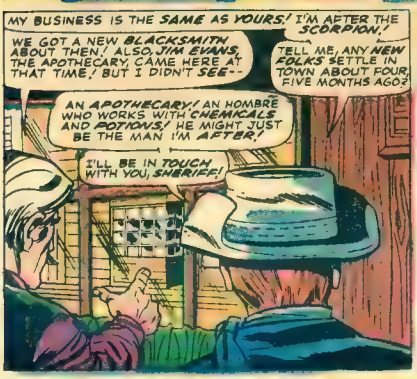
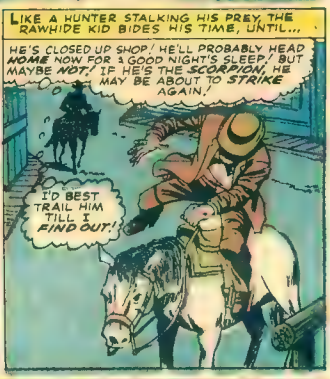
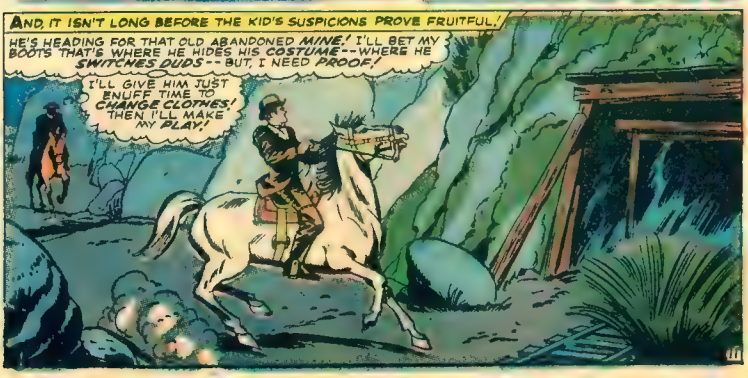
THUS PREPARED, THE APOTHECARY WASTED NO TIME INAUGURATING HIS RUTHLESS NEW CAREER.
I HEARD A DROWLER! HE'S HIDING SOMEWHERE IN THE ROOM!
I'VE GOT A GUN! WHO-EVER YOU ARE, SHOW YOURSELF!
THAT WAS A FOOLISH REQUEST, OLD MAN!
WHA--THAT MASK! WHO IN TARNATION ARE--:UHHH!:-
KRAK!
I ONLY WINGED HIM, BUT THAT'S ALL I NEEDED TO RENDER HIM HELPLESS!
AND, BY THE TIME HIS PARALYSIS WEARS OFF, THE OLD MAN WILL FIND HIS SAFE EMPTY, AND ME GONE!
AND, THAT FIRST CRIME WAS SOON FOLLOWED BY OTHER AND BOLDER ROBBERIES, AS THE VENGEANCE-HUNGRY SCORPION PROVED AS DEADLY AS HIS NAME!
FOOL! YOU CAN'T STOP ME! NOBODY CAN!
OHHH--
THAT BAG--HAND IT TO ME... SLOWLY! ONE FALSE MOVE AND--
YOUR MONEY AND VALUABLES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AT ONCE!
IT'S THE SCORPION! DON'T TRY TO FIGHT 'IM! GIVE 'IM WHAT HE WANTS!
YES! IF WE DON'T, HE'LL PARALYZE US, AND TAKE OUR MONEY ANYWAY! WE'RE HELPLESS AGAINST HIM!
DON'T SAY IT! THE PAYROLL IS YOURS!
JUST DON'T SHOOT! DON'T FREEZE ME!
10

AND NOW, LET US RETURN TO THE PRESENT, AS ANOTHER VENGEANCE-SEEKING STRANGER ARRIVES AT DUSTVILLE.
I DON'T KNOW THE SCORPION'S IDENTITY, BUT I KNOW A FEW OTHER FACTS ABOUT HIM.
HE'S ONLY BEEN IN BUSINESS FOUR MONTHS, AND MOST OF HIS CRIMES HAVE TAKEN PLACE AROUND HERE.

MOMENTS LATER, AT THE OFFICE OF A STARTLED SHERIFF...
SIMMER DOWN, LAWMAN! I DIDN'T COME HERE TO CAUSE TROUBLE! I CAME TO STOP IT!
BESIDES, I'M NOT WANTED BY THE LAW IN THIS NECK OF THE WOODS!
NOR BY ANYONE ELSE, OWLHOOT! STATE YOUR BUSINESS AND MAKE IT FAST!

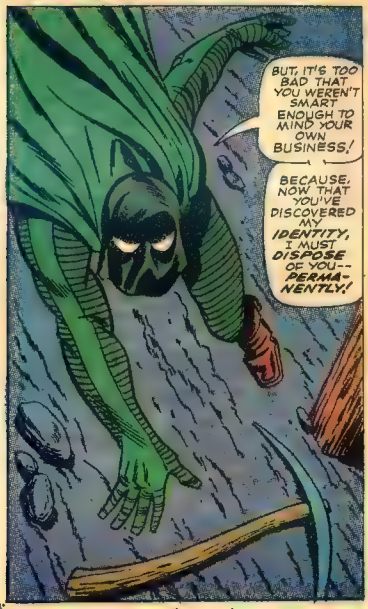

MY BUSINESS IS THE SAME AS YOURS! I'M AFTER THE SCORPION!
WE GOT A NEW BLACKSMITH ABOUT THEN! ALSO JIM EVANS, THE APOTHECARY, CAME HERE AT THAT TIME! BUT I DIDN'T SEE--
TELL ME, ANY NEW FOLKS SETTLE IN TOWN ABOUT FOUR FIVE MONTHS AGO?
AN APOTHECARY! AN HOMBRE WHO WORKS WITH CHEMICALS AND POTIONS! HE MIGHT JUST BE THE MAN I'M AFTER!
I'LL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU, SHERIFF!


LIKE A HUNTER STALKING HIS PREY, THE RAWHIDE KID BIDES HIS TIME, UNTIL...
HE'S CLOSED UP SHOP! HE'LL PROBABLY HEAD HOME NOW FOR A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP! BUT MAYBE NOT! IF HE'S THE SCORPION, HE MAY BE ABOUT TO STRIKE AGAIN!
I'D BEST TRAIL HIM TILL I FIND OUT!

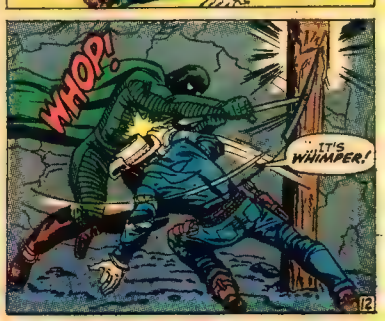

AND, IT ISN'T LONG BEFORE THE KID'S SUSPICIONS PROVE FRUITFUL!
HE'S HEADING FOR THAT OLD ABANDONED MINE! I'LL BET MY BOOTS THAT'S WHERE HE HIDES HIS COSTUME--WHERE HE SWITCHES DUDS--BUT, I NEED PROOF!
I'LL GIVE HIM JUST ENUFF TIME TO CHANGE CLOTHES! THEN I'LL MAKE MY PLAY!

I'VE WAITED LONG ENUFF!
I WAS RIGHT! YOU ARE THE SCORPION!
WHA--IT'S YOU AGAIN! HOW IN BLAZES DID YOU--?
IT WASN'T TOO TOUGH TO FIGURE OUT!

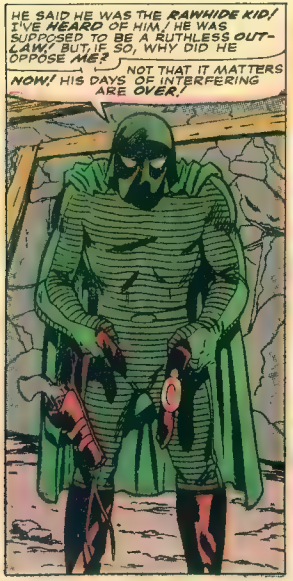
AFTER ALL, PARALYZING BULLETS DON'T GROW ON TREES! I KNEW THEY HAD TO BE MADE BY A CHEMIST, OR A SCIENTIST OR--:UHHH!:
YOU'RE REAL CLEVER, AREN'T YOU?
POW!

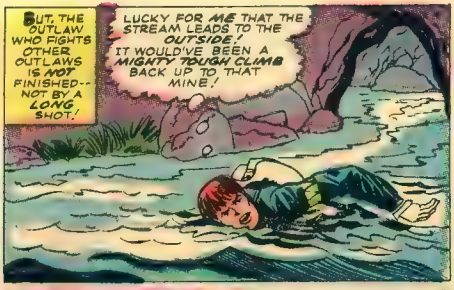

BUT, IT'S TOO BAD THAT YOU WEREN'T SMART ENOUGH TO MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
BECAUSE, NOW THAT YOU'VE DISCOVERED MY IDENTITY, I MUST DISPOSE OF YOU--PERMANENTLY!

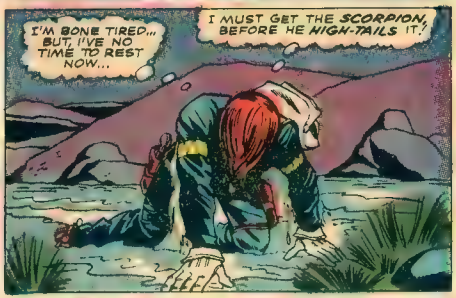
SO NOW YOU'VE GRADUATED FROM TEMPORARY PARALYSIS ...TO KILLING!
DON'T WHIMPER! YOU BROUGHT THIS ON YOURSELF, YOU MEDDLING FOOL!
MISTER, IF THERE'S ONE THING THAT THE KID DOESN'T DO...

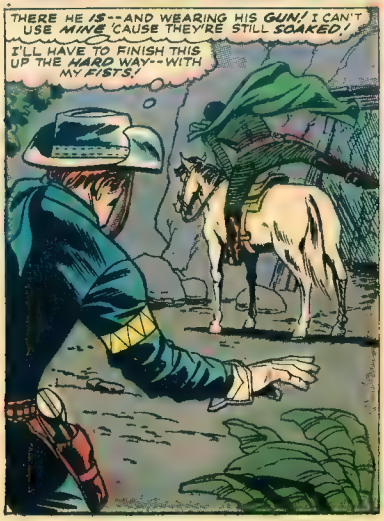

WHOP!
...IT'S WHIMPER!

SCRITCH!
AND NOW, I AIM TO SETTLE ACCOUNTS!
WOK!
BUT, AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT...
THAT POST--IT WAS A SUPPORT FOR THESE OTHERS! NOW THEY'RE ALL COLLAPSING!
THE GROUND IS GIVING WAY! I'M FALLING THRU INTO A CAVERN!
WITH NOTHING TO GRAB ONTO--NOTHING TO BREAK HIS FALL--THE KID PLUNGES DOWN INTO THE INKY DEPTHS BELOW!
HE HASN'T SURFACED! HE MUST HAVE DROWNED! SO BE IT!
3









CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

NORMAN ROCKWELL—America's most beloved artist. He is a founder and member of the Guiding Faculty of the Famous Artists Schools.

"We're looking for people who like to draw"

says NORMAN ROCKWELL

Today hundreds of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working at easels and drawing boards, making pictures and getting well paid for it. They all can thank a group of famous artists who have devoted much of their time and talent to helping others find success in art.

Some of the People the Famous Artists Have Helped

Carl Koch was an 18 year old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone—has won five gold medals

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist—last year he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

With Famous Artists training Rosemary Roberts was hired by a top department store as an artist—with a big chance to advance.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art workshop, does portraits.

A Plan to Help Others

It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists—men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos—met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned into good artists. Albert Dorne asked, "Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they created a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, they developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

The famous artists with the School are not surprised at the success of their students. The opportunities open to successful artists today are enormous. The School continually gets calls from all over the country asking for practical well-trained students—not geniuses—who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs. And practical, thorough training is what the School offers.

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the Famous Artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid to take this test, but now the School offers and grades it free. Men and women who do well on the test—or offer other evidence of art talent—may enroll in the School. But there's no obligation. Simply mail the coupon below.

FOUNDING FACULTY OF FAMOUS ARTISTS SCHOOLS

NORMAN ROCKWELL	FRED LUDEKENS
JON WHITCOMB	BEN STAHL
AL PARKER	ROBERT FAWCETT
STEVAN DOHANOS	AUSTIN BRIGGS
GEORGE GIUSTI	HAROLD VON SCHMIDT
PETER HELCK	ALBERT DORNE

Famous Artists Schools
Studio 5252, Westport, Conn.

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test and information about your courses.

Mr. / Mrs. / Miss } ← Circle one and please print _____ Age _____

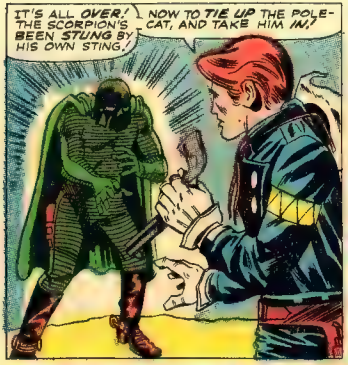
Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

THERE YOU GO AGAIN-- COUNTIN' YOUR VICTORIES BEFORE THEY'RE HATCHED!
IF OVERCONFIDENCE IS ONE OF MY FAULTS, OBSTINACY IS YOURS!
YOU SHOULD HAVE QUIT WHEN YOU HAD THE CHANCE!
THOK!
BECAUSE NOW, IT'S TOO LATE! MUCH, MUCH TOO LATE!
HE'S GONNA DRAW! I WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP HIM IN TIME!
I'VE GOT JUST ONE PLAY LEFT...

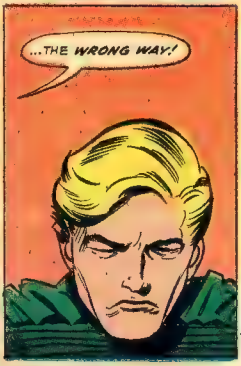
I'LL DUCK UNDER HIS FIRST SHOT--AND TRY TO GRAB HIM BEFORE HE CAN GET OFF A SECOND ROUND!
KRAK!
WHA--I MISSED!
MADE IT! NOW TO WRAP UP THIS FRACAS FOR GOOD!
MMMPH--IT WON'T BE EASY! HE'S A LOT STRONGER'N I THOUGHT!
YOU CAN'T HOLD ME LIKE THIS FOR LONG! I'LL GET FREE--AND WHEN I DO, YOU'RE FINISHED!
HE'S RIGHT! I CAN'T HANG ON MUCH LONGER! MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO FORCE HIS ARM AROUND--TO TURN HIS OWN WEAPON AGAINST HIM!
AND, IN THE NEXT FATEFUL MOMENT, THE GRUELING STRUGGLE COMES TO ITS GRIM CONCLUSION!
KRAK!
13


IT'S ALL OVER! THE SCORPION'S BEEN STUNG BY HIS OWN STING!
NOW TO TIE UP THE POLE-CAT, AND TAKE HIM IN!

AND, BY THE TIME HIS PARALYSIS HAS WORN OFF, JIM EVANS FINDS HIMSELF A BOUND AND HELPLESS PRISONER!
WAL, I'LL BE JIGGERED!
THE KID'S CAUGHT THE SCORPION! BUT, WHY HASN'T HE UNMASKED HIM YET?
HE DON'T NEED TO! HE KNOWS WHO HE IS... AND NOW, SO DO I!

YEH, WHO?
A LITTLE MAN FROM BACK EAST...

...WHO CAME OUT TO A BIG UNTAMED LAND, AND TRIED TO CONQUER IT...


...THE WRONG WAY!

WE'RE BEHOLDEN TO YUH, RAWHIDE! IT'S MUH GUESS THAT HALF THE CRIMES FOLKS LAY AT YOUR DOOR AIN'T TRUE!
HOW ABOUT STAYIN' ON HERE AWHILE?
THANKS, SHERIFF-- BUT, THERE ARE TOO MANY MEN, WITH TOO MANY GUNS, WHO DON'T SHARE YOUR KIND FEELIN'S ABOUT ME!
SO, THE BEST THING THAT THE RAWHIDE KID CAN DO FOR THIS PEACEFUL TOWN...

...IS TO PUSH ON! MAYBE SOME DAY I'LL FIND A PLACE WHERE MY REP HASN'T GOT TO FIRST, A PLACE WHERE I CAN HANG UP MY GUNS, AND SETTLE DOWN!
BUT, UNTIL THEN, IT'S GOT TO BE-- ADIOS!
AND SO, THE YOUNG FUGITIVE RIDES OFF INTO THE SPRAWLING DISTANCE, WHERE MORE ADVENTURES AWAIT HIM--AND YOU, TOO, WHEN YOU PICK UP THE NEXT THRILLING ISSUE OF... THE RAWHIDE KID!

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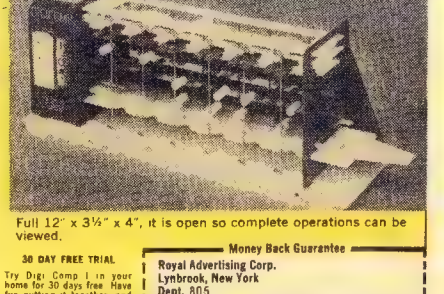

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A BATTY BARRAGE OF BOMBASTIC BULLETINS; BURSTIN' WITH BI-PARTISAN BANTER, RARE-FACED BANALITY, AND UNABASHED BULL!

DIDJA KNOW? The Marvel Super-Heroes Show on TV is seen in far-off Australia, Japan, Uruguay, Canada, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, and even Kalamazoo! (Of course, none of those exotic places mentioned are far-off if you happen to live there — but, we're sure you get the idea!) As for the candid, capricious comments of our cavortin' critics-at-large—it seems that most merry Marvelites think it's a blast — and they're relieved that our crazy cartoons are reasonably true to the spirit of the mags themselves. As for us, we're going batty trying to keep up with all the shows. In some cities the program is presented five nights a week during the prime time evening hours. In other cities, it's on the air three nights a week—and in some, it's shown during the afternoons. Some channels feature their own M.C.'s introducing the cartoons while some just put our fabulous little fables on the air without any other whoop-de-do. As for the ratings, we've learned that in most of the key cities where the show is presented, it's been clobbering all the opposition — thanks, no doubt, to the support of loyal Marvel-men everywhere! By the way, we still receive some mail from desperate devotees in areas where Marvel Super-Heroes is not yet televised, asking how they can compel their local channels to get with it. Since we're in the business of producing comic mags, and the TV end is something as new to us as it is to you, we can only suggest that those of you whose cities are still Marvel Super-Hero-less write to your favorite local channels and try to make 'em see the error of their ways! Although, at the rate TV stations thruout the free world are hopping on the madcap Marvel bandwagon, there may not be any culturally underprivileged cities left by the time this meritorious message sets forth! And now — one last important point: If you've any cataclysmic comments about the show — anything you like, or loathe—send 'em on to your local station. Simply introduce yourself as one of Marvel's fabulous faithful and pour it on 'em. Just as your litlin' letters have been a truly vital factor in maintaining the quality of the mag you're now reading, so will they help to make our Marvel Super-Heroes Show the kind of TV fare you want it to be! If you like the show's announcer, or think he's for the birds — if you wanna discuss the hour at which it's televised, or the manner in which it's presented, or even if you just wanna write and say "Face Front!", take pen in hand and DO it, tiger — your local channel will love hearin' from you, and your Bullpen buddies won't haveta worry about you becoming inhibited! And now — on to other equally earth-shattering items:

DIDJA KNOW? Genial GENE COLAN bought himself a motorcycle a short while ago and chewed our ears off telling us how great it was. A few days later he came to the Bullpen with a couple of bandaged elbows and a sheepish expression. Today, he's riding around in a swingy little sedan once again, leaving the cycle bit for guys like Peter Parker and his ilki! After all, Spidey doesn't haveta worry about his drawing hand!

DIDJA KNOW: Speaking of bandages 'n stuff, someone over at Brand Echh must be sticking pins in a Marvel doll! Just a few weeks ago, Larrupin' LARRY LIEBER (Ol' Rawhide Kid himself) bent down to pick up an art eraser and suddenly sprained his sacroiliac when he straightened up! It meant a week of bed-rest for luckless Larry while ol' Rawhide had to fend for himself. Then, we no sooner got our little invalid on his feet again than whammo, Wild BILL EVERETT did practically the same thing to his sacroiliac while stepping off a bus! Bill is great on submarines, bucking broncos and surfboards, but these ordinary, slow-moving busses — yeeesh! Anyway, Mr. Sub-Mariner was also flat on his back for a week while the rest of us spent our time making sure our hospitalization policies are all paid up! You never knew it was so dangerous producing comics, eh?

DIDJA KNOW? When Marvel hires a new art associate, we don't kid around—we get our money's worth. Step up and meet JOHNNY VERPOORTEN, our newest Bullpen backup man. Johnny John is six feet, six inches tall, and tips the scales at a mere 290 pounds! (He thinks we latched onto him to do artwork for us—but wait ll he sees the costume we're making for him! All we have to do is trick him into it, and we'll have a new, ready-made super-hero to unleash upon mankind!)

DIDJA KNOW? Rascally ROY THOMAS just let the cat out of the bag, adm-itting that he gave up a scholarship to George Washington University just to write for Marvel! He would have missed world events at G.W.U. and might have ended up becoming a diplomat! However, knowing how the ol' rapscallion shoots his mouth off, he might also have accidentally started World War III—so we, for one, feel Roy has saved humanity once more by keeping Mr. T. chained to his typewriter.

DIDJA KNOW? Jolly JACK KIRBY'S ears must be really burning. Every comics mag fan has his own personal favorite among all the artists employed by the different companies—but, when it comes to the opinion of the pro's themselves—when it comes to naming the ARTISTS' ARTIST, there isn't even a contest! Every time the conversation here at the Bullpen gets around to artwork (and what ELSE is there to talk about?), you should hear the top men in the field lower their voices when the name of King Kirby comes up. It's generally agreed that, when speaking of super-hero illustration; of action drawing; of imaginative conceptions; of dynamic, double-barrelled drama; Marvel's many-faceted master simply has no peer! There is hardly a pro pencil-pusher in the field today who hasn't been influenced by Jolly Jack's memorable masterpieces — or by the constantly shattering impact of his creativity. Don't be embarrassed, Jack — this is just Stan's cornball way of telling you that it's been a ball all these years, pal — and the best is still ahead!

THE WRAP-UP!—We're plumb outta room, so hang loose and face front! Life's a swingin' symphony, and we don't wantcha to miss a note of it! 'Nuff said!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #61: The Sandman returns, more dangerous than ever—but, the big shocker is... the fearsome fate of Reed Richards! It'll stun you!

SPIDER-MAN #47: We can't wait till you see Jazzy Johnny Romita's version of Kraven the Hunter! And, remember the Green Goblin? Well —

AVENGERS #38: Cap absent on leave, the Black Widow behind the Bamboo Curtain —and, now, the fateful challenge of the peerless Prince of Power—Hercules!

X-MEN #30: Our marvelous mutants face the wondrous wizardry—or is it the super-scientific genius—of a foe aptly named . . . the Warlock!

DAREDEVIL #26: At last—the secret identity of the Masked Marauder revealed—plus the reappearance of the sensational, sinister, startling Stiltman!

THOR #138: See the God of Thunder battle the unbearable Ulik for the life of stunning S.H. And, wait'll you meet up with the mysterious, awesome Orikal!

STRANGE TALES #155: Nick Fury faces his greatest challenge—from within S.H.I.E.L.D. itself! As for Dr. Strange, the only way he can save Clea—is to lose her!

SUSPENSE #88: You'll never forget Iron Man's last-ditch combat with the Male Man's legions! And, can Bucky really be alive again, as Cap battles Power Man and the Swordsman?

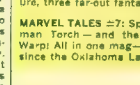
ASTONISH #90: The Sub-Mariner faces his most desperate defeat against the menace known as Byrrah! And, speaking of defeats, wait'll you see who the Hulk is up against!

SGT. FURY #40: Everybody's favorite Howlers set out to rescue a leader of the famous French Underground — only to find themselves caught in a deadly trap!

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #8: The F.F.! Ol' Shellhead! The Master of the Mystic Arts! And, the Jolly Green Goliath himself! Wotta way to start the new year!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #7: The original Human Torch and Sub-Mariner—plus more Golden Age goodies with the one and only Captain America! And, just for good measure, three far-out fantasy favorites!

MARVEL TALES #7: Spidey—Thor—the Human Torch — and the wistful, wonderful Warp! All in one mag—the biggest bargain since the Oklahoma Land Rush!



Let's meet 26 more M.M.M.S. members!

Jose Garrido, Bayamon, Puerto Rico
Larry McNamara, Bryan, Tex.
John Carlson, Bryan, Tex.
Donald Griffith, Bryan, Tex.
Joe Lee, Bryan, Tex.
Ralph Iavezzi, Massapequa Park, N.Y.
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J. E. Griggs, Cozaw, S. C.
Dennis Manyek, Chicago, Ill.
Kean Crowe, W. Seneca, N. Y.
James Coughlin, Colorado Springs, Colo.
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Steven Kraus, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Gary Christy, Ashtabula, Ohio
Harvey Bobb, Surry, Va.
Robert Chaffee, Rochester, N. Y.
Bill Chamberlain, Pasadena, Cal.
Robert Mendel, Bronx, N. Y.

THE MAN CALLED KLEEG

HIS NAME WAS KLEEG! NO ONE KNEW WHETHER IT WAS HIS FIRST NAME OR HIS LAST! NO ONE KNEW HIS OTHER NAME! AND NO ONE CARED! ALL THEY CARED ABOUT WAS THE FACT THAT HIS GUN BUTT HAD EIGHTEEN NOTCHES ON IT! AND HE COULD OUTDRAW ANY HOMBRE FROM THE PANHANDLE TO THE ROCKIES!

Stan Lee + Don Heck

THE SMOKE HAD HARDLY CLEARED ABOVE HIS VICTIM WHEN KLEEG LOOKED AROUND HIM EAGERLY, WAITING FOR ANY MAN TO DISPUTE HIS VICTORY! BUT NO GUN ANSWERED HIM! ALL WAS SILENT!

THE REASON FOR THE GUNFIGHT HAS LONG SINCE BEEN FORGOTTEN IN THE ANNALS OF TIME! ALL THAT IS REMEMBERED IS THAT KLEEG RODE OUT OF TOWN SILENTLY, SNEERING, WITH ANOTHER NOTCH TO ADD TO HIS GUN BUTT!

ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN

KID COLT #105

(JULY 1962)

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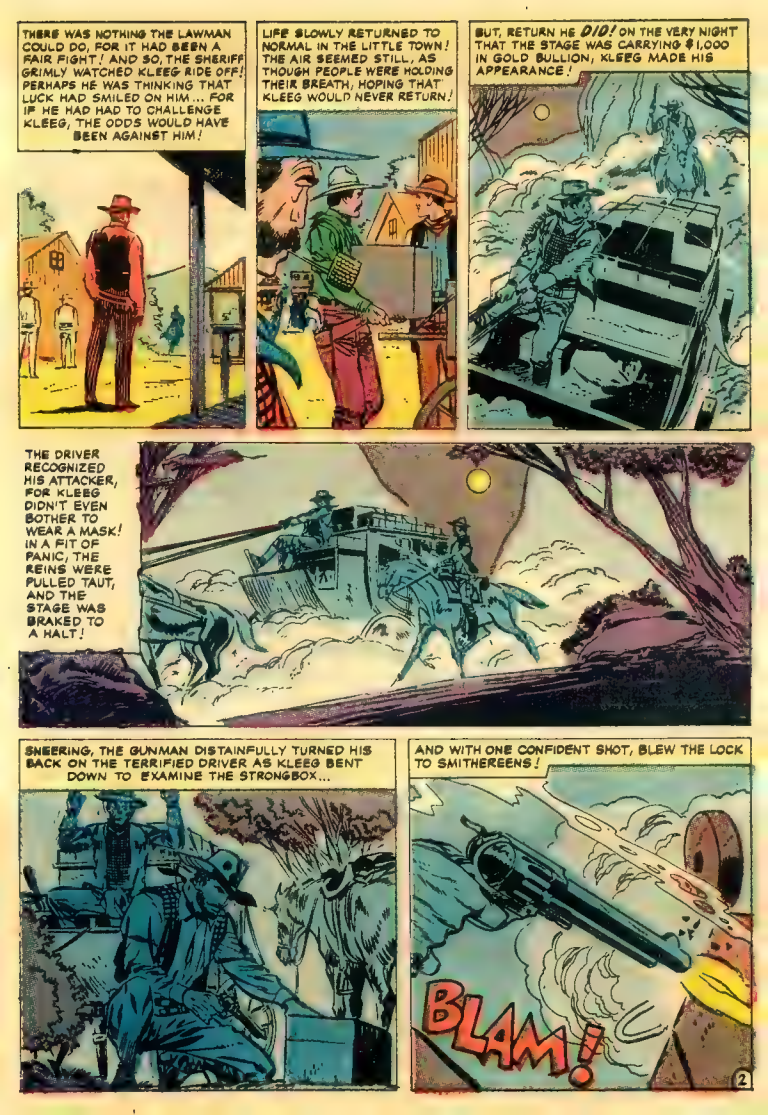
THERE WAS NOTHING THE LAWMAN COULD DO, FOR IT HAD BEEN A FAIR FIGHT! AND SO, THE SHERIFF GRIMLY WATCHED KLEEG RIDE OFF! PERHAPS HE WAS THINKING THAT LUCK HAD SMILED ON HIM... FOR IF HE HAD HAD TO CHALLENGE KLEEG, THE ODDS WOULD HAVE BEEN AGAINST HIM!
LIFE SLOWLY RETURNED TO NORMAL IN THE LITTLE TOWN! THE AIR SEEMED STILL, AS THOUGH PEOPLE WERE HOLDING THEIR BREATH, HOPING THAT KLEEG WOULD NEVER RETURN!
BUT, RETURN HE DID! ON THE VERY NIGHT THAT THE STAGE WAS CARRYING $1,000 IN GOLD BULLION, KLEEG MADE HIS APPEARANCE!
THE DRIVER RECOGNIZED HIS ATTACKER, FOR KLEEG DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO WEAR A MASK! IN A FIT OF PANIC, THE REINS WERE PULLED TAUT, AND THE STAGE WAS BRAKED TO A HALT!
SNEERING, THE GUNMAN DISTAINFULLY TURNED HIS BACK ON THE TERRIFIED DRIVER AS KLEEG BENT DOWN TO EXAMINE THE STRONGBOX...
AND WITH ONE CONFIDENT SHOT, BLEW THE LOCK TO SMITHEREENS!
BLAM!
2

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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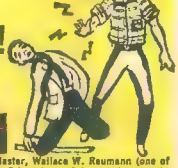

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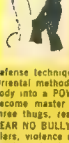

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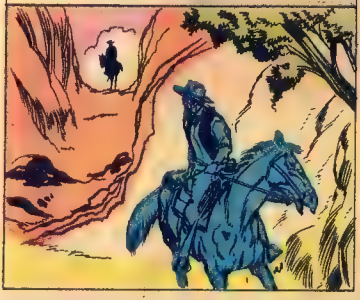
DAWN WAS BLISTERING THE SKY WHEN THE TWO MEN FINALLY CAUGHT SIGHT OF EACH OTHER! TO KLEEG, THE RANGER'S BADGE WAS LIKE A TARGET'S BULL'S EYE! HIS GUN SEEMED TO BE DRAWN TO IT AS THOUGH TO A MAGNET!

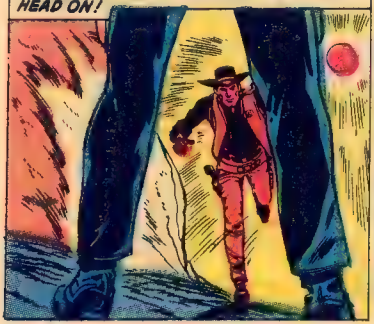


BUT THE LAWMAN'S KEEN EARS HEARD KLEEG'S TRIGGER BEING COCKED, AND AT THE SPLIT-SECOND THAT THE KILLER FIRED, HIS PURSUER LEAPT FROM HIS HORSE!

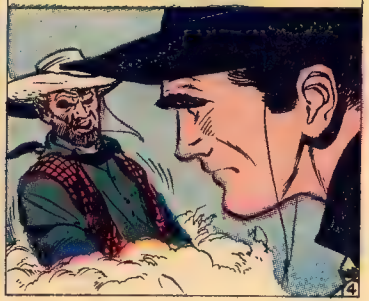
KLEEG ADVANCED STEADILY TOWARD THE ROCK BEHIND WHICH THE RANGER FOUND COVER! THE GUNMAN KEEPS HIS COLTS BLAZING STEADILY... NOT GIVING THE LAWMAN TIME TO RAISE HIS HEAD AND FIRE BACK!

BUT THE BADGE-TOTER HAD A TRICK OR TWO UP HIS SLEEVE, ALSO! AS KLEEG CAME CLOSER, HE SLOWLY INCHED AROUND THE ROCK UNTIL HE HAD MANEUVERED HIS FOE INTO A POSITION FACING THE BRIGHT MORNING SUN!

AND THEN, UNEXPECTEDLY, SUDDENLY THE RANGER HOLSTERED HIS GUN AND RACED TOWARD KLEEG... ***HEAD ON!***

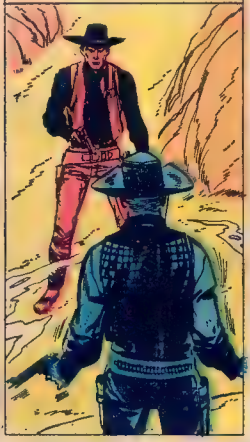


TAKEN COMPLETELY UNAWARE BY THE SUDDEN MOVE, AND BLINDED BY THE BRIGHT SUN, KLEEG FIRED TOO QUICKLY, MISSING A VITAL TARGET, BUT GRAZING THE RANGER'S LEG!



BUT NOW THE LAWMAN RAISED HIS GUN STEADILY, INEXORABLY, FOR KLEEG HAD FIRED HIS LAST SHELL! THE GUNMAN'S COLTS WERE EMPTY!

HE KNEW THAT KLEEG COULD OUT-DRAW AND OUTSHOOT HIM! BUT IT MADE NO DIFFERENCE NOW! NO MATTER HOW FAST KLEEG WAS, HE COULD NEVER RELOAD BEFORE HIS OPPONENT HAD FIRED!



KLEEG KNEW HE HAD BEEN OUT-FOXED! HIS EYES, HIS HANDS, HIS VOICE PLEADED FOR MERCY, FOR A MERCY HE HAD NEVER SHOWN ANOTHER FOE! BUT THE RANGER'S HAMMER CLICKED!

THEN, UNEXPECTEDLY, THE MAN CALLED KLEEG SLUMPED FORWARD! THE MOST FEARED GUNMAN IN THE WEST FELL FLAT ON HIS FACE, AS THE LIFE EBBED FROM HIS BODY! THE MAN WHO HELD LIFE SO LIGHTLY HAD LOST HIS OWN LIFE OUT OF COWARDICE... THRU SHEER FEAR! HIS HEART HAD FAILED HIM... IN A FIT OF UNCONTROLLABLE PANIC!

SLOWLY THE LAWMAN HOLSTERED HIS GUN! A POWER FAR GREATER THAN HIS HAD TAKEN KLEEG FROM HIM! THE JOB WAS DONE! THE MENACE WAS GONE FOREVER!

AND, EXCEPT FOR ITS MENTION IN THE TALE, THE NAME OF KLEEG, THE GUNMAN, IS LONG SINCE FORGOTTEN IN THE ANNALS OF THE WEST! BUT THE NAME OF HIS FOE, THE MAN WHO ACTUALLY SCARED HIM TO DEATH, WILL LONG BE REMEMBERED... SO LONG AS MEN HONOR THE NAME OF.. *WILD BILL HICKOK!*

NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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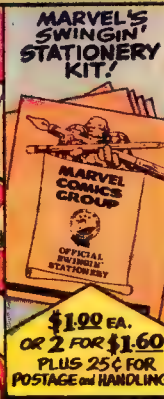

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2. Title of Publication: RAWHIDE KID.
3. Frequency of Issue: Bi-monthly
4. Location of Known Office of Publication: 625 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022
5. Location of the Headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publishers: 625 Madison Ave. New York, N.Y. 10022.
6. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, and managing editor are: Publisher: Martin Goodman, 625 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022 Editor: Stan Lee, 625 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Managing Editor: None.
7. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.) Atlas Magazines Inc., 625 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022, Martin Goodman, 625 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022
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B. Paid Circulation: 1) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 202,638; single issue nearest to filing date: 208,000. 2) Mail subscriptions: Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 185; single issue nearest to filing date: 85.

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

(signed) JOHN F. HAYES
(Business Manager)

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RIDIN' THE TRAIL WITH RAWHIDE

Dear Stan and Larry,

Being more inclined to read super-hero mags, I had always disregarded your western books until today when, as I was in my favorite drug store looking for any new Marvels, I noticed a copy of Rawhide Kid hidden behind an X-Men which I'd already bought. (How's that for a free plug?) For want of anything better, I bought RK—and discovered that, in its own way, it is just as entertaining as your other Marvel-ous mags. My only suggestion is that you lengthen the stories to 24-pages to allow for more plot-development! At this point, I'm at a loss for words, so I'll borrow some from that great philosopher, Irving Forbush, and say, "Marvel or nothing!" 'Nuff said!

Tom MacMillan, 5 Irving Road
Scotia, New York

A great big "*Thanks, podnuh*" from all of us here at the old Marvel corral—except for Lassoin' Larry Lieber who wants to know what this *24-page* talk is all about. He says doing *17* pages keeps him so busy that he's had to give up his Saturday afternoon *riding lessons!*

Dear Stan and Larry,

I have been a fan of Rawhide ever since ish #45, which featured his origin! I really dig Larry's art—especially those action-packed covers! The only thing that bothers me is that Thor and the Kid seem to wear the same kind of shirt—check those crazy blue buttons! It's not that I object to this, it's just that—well, it just seems a little odd to me! Keep up the great work and I'll keep riding the trail with Rawhide!

Peter Grimshaw, 14 Temple Road
Lynnfield Center, Mass.

By the prickly quills of a prairie porcupine! By the saddle-sore saga of Sagebrush Irv! So what if the kid's shirt looks a little like Thor's! It just so happens that old Rawhide once saw a picture of the Thunder God in a history book—and, he liked the blue buttons so much that he had a tailor make him some shirts *just like* old Goldilocks'! *Pheu*—you had us on the edge of a cliff there for a minute, Petey boy!

Dear Stan and Larry,

Your art is getting better and better every issue! I just finished reading Rawhide #54, and it was the greatest. Why don't you give us a story where the Kid teams up with the cavalry and fights some Indians? It seems like you never see any Indians in westerns anymore.

Dick M. Morris
Big Horn, Wyoming

No Indians! Sheesh, Dick — that means you haven't picked up a copy of the latest addition to the Marvel western line-up . . . *the Ghost Rider!* Believe us, that origin yarn has more redskins than Custer's Last Stand! Who *says* this isn't the Marvel age of sneaky free plugs?!

Dear Stan and Larry,

The latest issue of Rawhide Kid was (darn, I always get hung-up trying to think of the proper adjective to describe your work) Marvel-ous! (Somehow, I always wind up using that one.) Why not put the Kid on the Mighty Marvel Checklist? You'd probably sell a lot more of his mags that way. Well, I guess that's about all I have to say except that I'll always Make Mine Marvel!

Tommy Wheeler, Box 938
Crosbyton, Texas

What? Put Rawhide on the checklist? Sure—and let every lawman west of the Mississippi know that he's *hiding out* at the Marvel corral! Believe us, Tommy, if you want to see the Kid around for more six-shootin' sagas, mum's the word! If you have to tell the law something—tell 'em the Kid's teaming up with *Brand Echh!* —See you next ish—R.K.

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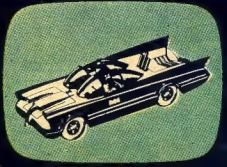

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